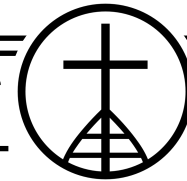


PULPIT CURRICULUM

The Marks of a Good Church, pt.2

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

January 14, 2024 – Adam Ashoff



Prayer & Praise: For the Middle & High School Student Retreat this weekend: safety for all on the roads and throughout the weekend; strength for the leaders; spiritual growth for all attending.

A Good Church Proclaims the Gospel of God. (vv.4-5).

"If you're looking for the perfect church, you'll need to die to get there, because the only perfect one is in heaven."

How do you deal with the gap between the ideal church we want to be vs. reality of life in the church?

Have you ever been tempted to give up on finding a good church? What helped you not do that?

What would you say to a person who thinks there are no "good" churches and have given up on church?

Why was Paul convinced that the gospel had been at work in Thessalonica? What effect did it have on him?

When you have had an opportunity to share the gospel through evangelism, teaching, or preaching, can you relate to how Paul describes the sense of being empowered by the Spirit and under "full conviction"?

Our life attracts, and the truth transforms. Our life models, and the truth explains. Has a similar pattern been modeled to you by other believers? How have you done something similar in evangelism and discipleship?

The power of authoritative force is not as lasting as the impact of relational influence. Think about those who have influenced you the most. Was it a position of authority or power of relationship? How did they invest in your life?

Mutual Ministry: Paul's example was built on the simple reality he was "among" them. Do you struggle with giving people your time? Is it a quantity or quality of time issue for you? Who in your life needs more of you right now?

Our message is that every man must be 'born-again', and whatever else may happen to him short of that is of no value whatsoever outside of where he stands as a sinner before God.

D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones.